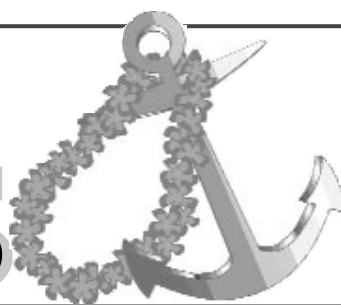


# Hawaii Navy News



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Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"

August 6, 1999

## IN BRIEF

### Public invited to tour USS Hopper

Step aboard USS Hopper (DDG 70) tomorrow from noon to four p.m. at Pearl Harbor's Bravo Pier 22. Visitors may enter through Nimitz gate and proceed directly to the "visit ship." No reservations are required to tour the ship. For safety purposes, children must be eight years old. Guests should wear comfortable shoes and dress for climbing ladders and walking over grates.

### BMC Makalapa increases peak hour appointments

The Makalapa Branch Medical Clinic (BMC) added an additional pediatrician and adult physician Monday through Friday to better serve patients' needs for appointments during peak hours. This increases the number of appointments available to patients during evening hours. Weekends remain unchanged with one pediatrician and one adult physician available to see patients. In addition Makalapa BMC's hours of operation changed to: 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. instead of 8 p.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. instead of 8 p.m. on weekends. For more information, call Lt. Lawry at 473-1880 ext. 247.

### Navy Counselors meeting features Navy's TAMP director

The next monthly meeting of the Oahu Chapter of the Navy Counselors Association is August 13 at 10 a.m. at the Naval Station Pearl Harbor Family Service Center, Room 200. All command career counselors, command master chiefs, collateral duty career counselors, and interested personnel are invited to attend. The guest speaker will be Sharon Blindauer, Programs Director for all Navy Career Resource Centers at Navy Personnel Command. She will meet with Oahu career counselors to discuss the Transition Assistance Management program. Call NCC(AW) Matthews at 473-2269 for more information.

### Construction closes part of North Road

Portions of one ewa-bound lane of North Road will be closed from 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. weekdays until August 25. The road will be closed to install a pipe, which is part of a bilge and oily water collection system.

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# COLA reduction repealed

## Rate freeze means Sailors' paychecks remain unchanged

By JO1 David Nagle

NAVY REGION HAWAII

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Aircraft Handling) 2nd Class Herbert Mullennix couldn't believe the news at first. His Cost of Living Allowance for Hawaii was going down again.

The eight-year Navy veteran, attached to Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron (Light) Thirty Seven (HSL-37), stood to lose about \$75 a month, starting in his August 13 paycheck.

"I was upset," said Mullennix, a husband and father of two. "You start thinking about the things you're not going to be able to do. Maybe you don't go out to eat as often, or take the kids somewhere. You've got to make the cuts somewhere."

So, you can imagine his reaction to last Friday's news that the pending COLA reduction was rescinded.

"I was happy," he said. "It gives you the sense that someone understands the realities of living in Hawaii, listened to our concerns and cared enough to make the change."

Mullennix is just one of the more than 41,000 active duty servicemembers and 50,000 family members in Hawaii breathing a sigh of relief when they

learned that their monthly COLA allowance wouldn't decrease.

U.S. Pacific Command released information last Friday that the current COLA rates for Hawaii would remain in effect and there will be no rate change for servicemembers stationed in Hawaii. Since the reduction wouldn't be reflected until the August 13 paycheck, Sailors will not see a change in their paycheck.

The Defense Department planned to lower the COLA index in Oahu from 116 to 112 on August 1, based on the results of their 1999 COLA survey. This would have resulted in a COLA decrease of approximately 25 percent, based on paygrade, number of family members and time in service. The Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) decided to freeze the COLA index at its current rate while they re-

▼ See COLA, A-3

## Navy Leadership Continuum

# Tomorrow's leaders prepare today

Second class petty officers are among the future leaders of the Navy.

Twice a month, second and first class petty officers attend special training classes for what may be the most important two weeks of their careers.

The Navy Leadership Continuum provides 'middle management' Sailors the opportunity to become better petty officers and more importantly, better leaders.

"It's good preparation for leadership responsibilities," said Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SEAL/PJ) William Norman. "It gives us references to go to for information. This course will help us all to improve our ability to deal with people up and down the chain. Being able to communicate is important and they stress it a great deal in the course."

The course stresses interpersonal skills and emphasizes the importance of looking the part of a leader.

"We have personnel inspections every week," said Radioman 2nd Class Virgil Brewer, class leader.

"We need to set the example by properly wearing our uniforms too. A good leader needs to do that. The class gives us a lot of tools we can use when we go back to our commands."

"It's helping a lot," said Engineman 2nd Class Tyler Backman. "The course is required for advancement for E-5 and E-6's and shows us how to work better with subordinates and superiors."

▼ See LEADERSHIP, A-6



JO2 Greg Cleghorne photo

MMC(SS) Kelly Fagen, E-5 track coordinator, looks over Navy Leadership Continuum class members during a weekly uniform inspection.

# Leadership training now required for advancing Sailors

By JO1 David Nagle

NAVY REGION HAWAII

Sailors who want to advance to the next paygrade will soon have to spend time in the classroom before they sew on that extra stripe.

According to NAVADMIN message 201/99, effective October 1, second class, first class and chief petty officers are required to attend the Navy's Leadership Training Course (LTC) in

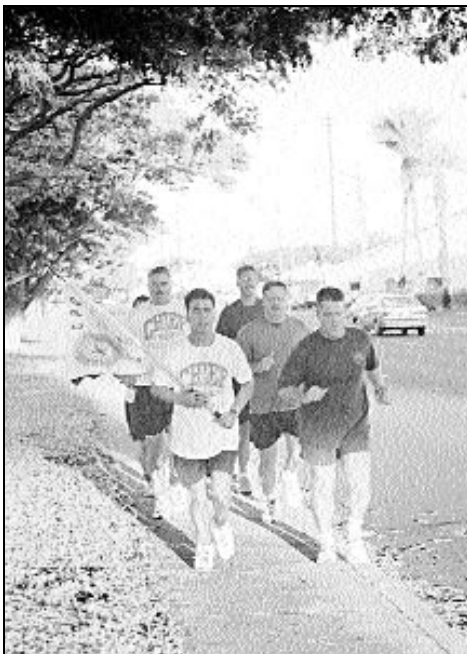
their current paygrade as a professional requirement to advance.

This change does not affect PO2's eligible to participate in September's Navy-wide advancement exam. Second class petty officers taking part in the September exam are "grandfathered" - successful completion of the PO2 leadership course is not required to participate in or be advanced to PO1 from the September exam.

▼ See REQUIRED, A-6

# In training

Chief petty officer selectees and their sponsors at Fleet Technical Support Center Pacific, Detachment Pearl Harbor run along South Ave. during morning PT Monday. Physical fitness training is just one aspect of CPO indoctrination, where selectees will learn the skills necessary to be a chief petty officer. The FY2000 CPO board results were released on July 23. Nearly 19 percent of selection board eligible first class petty officers were selected Navy-wide.



JO1 David Nagle photo

# Pacific Fleet to validate Y2K readiness during at-sea exercise

CINCPACFLT Public Affairs

USS Port Royal (CG 73), USS Russell (DDG 59) and USS Asheville (SSN 758) got underway today, joining 14 other Pacific Fleet ships to begin a detailed Y2K validation exercise off the coast of Southern California.

This event is designed to validate systems and to train personnel of the USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) Battle Group and the USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) Amphibious Ready Group to solve the Y2K challenge, ensuring the Navy is ready for the year 2000.

On Aug. 13, the ships will

roll the dates on their computer systems forward to Feb. 28, 2000, to test the battle group's systems in a simulated new year. They will also test systems on the simulated leap day of Feb. 29, 2000.

The Pacific Fleet's Y2K effort dates back to 1996. Y2K is a top priority for the Pacific Fleet and is an important readiness issue. This validation exercise will help the Navy minimize the impact of Y2K on its systems and people. The validation, scheduled to last through Aug. 20, is a multi-level test designed to ensure the multi-ship groups that form the basis of how the Navy deploys can work together as a team